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CLAIMS:

1. A method of screening or detecting non-ocular disease in an animal, the method comprising obtaining a tear sample from the animal and analysing the tear sample for an indicator or marker of the non-ocular disease, wherein the indicator or marker is a protein having a N-terminal amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:
EDASSDSTGA DPAQ(E/Q)AGTSQ PNEDIAG;
WDPKE; and
DSGCKLLEDM VEKTINSDIS IPEYKELLQE FIDSDAAAEA MGKFKQCFLN
QSHRTLKNFG LMMHTVYDSI WCNL.
2. The method according to claim 1 wherein the protein includes the amino acid sequence:
DSGCKLLEDM VEKTINSDIS IPEYKELLQE FIDSDAAAEA MGKFKQCFLN
QSHRTLKNFG LMMHTVYDSI WCNL, or part thereof.
3. A method of screening or detecting non-ocular disease in an animal, the method comprising the steps of:
(a) obtaining a tear sample from the animal;
(b) separating biomolecules present in the tear sample; and
(c) detecting for the presence or absence of one or more biomolecules such that the presence or absence of the one or more biomolecules being an indicator or marker of a disease state in the animal, wherein the one or more biomolecules are one or more proteins having a N-terminal amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:
EDASSDSTGA DPAQ(E/Q)AGTSQ PNEDIAG;
WDPKE; and
DSGCKLLEDM VEKTINSDIS IPEYKELLQE FIDSDAAAEA MGKFKQCFLN
QSHRTLKNFG LMMHTVYDSI WCNL.
4. The method according to claim 3 wherein the protein includes the amino acid sequence:
DSGCKLLEDM VEKTINSDIS IPEYKELLQE FIDSDAAAEA MGKFKQCFLN
QSHRTLKNFG LMMHTVYDSI WCNL, or part thereof.
5. The method according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ wherein the non-ocular disease is selected from cancers and genetic disorders.
6. The method according to claim 5 wherein the cancer is breast or prostate cancer.

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7. The method according to claim 3 wherein the separating step (b) is by a chromatographic or an electrophoretic technique.

8. The method according to claim 7 wherein the electrophoretic technique is two-dimensional polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (2D-PAGE).

9. The method according to claim 3 wherein the detecting step (c) involves direct or indirect analysis using labelled probes specific for the disease indicator or marker in an immunoassay or radioimmunoassay.

10. An isolated protein detectable in tears having an amino acid N-terminus selected from the group consisting of:

EDASSDSTGA DPAQ(E/Q)AGTSQ PNEDIAG;

WDPKE; and

DSGCKLLEDM VEKTINSDIS IPEYKELLQE FIDSDAAAEA MGKFKQCFLN
QSHRTLKNFG LMMHTVYDSI WCNL.

11. An isolated protein detectable in tears including the amino acid sequence:

DSGCKLLEDM VEKTINSDIS IPEYKELLQE FIDSDAAAEA MGKFKQCFLN
QSHRTLKNFG LMMHTVYDSI WCNL, or part thereof.

12. An isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding any one of the proteins according to claim 10.

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